in all primary schools: (i) provision of at least two reasonably large all-weather rooms with a deep verandah along with separate toilet facilities for boys and girls (ii) provision of at least two teachers, as far as possible one of them a woman, in every primary school and (iii) provision of essential teaching and learning material including blackboards, maps; sharts; small library, toys and games and some equipment for work experience.

This scheme has been started with effect from 1987-88. It was proposed to cover all primary schools in 20 per cent blocks/municipal areas in the country in 1987-88. The States were advised to select at least one block from every district, giving preference to educationally backward blocks as far as possible.

So far 27 States/UTs have recommended proposals for central assistance. The selected blocks/municipal areas propose provision facilities to 112099 primary schools. Data regarding location in hilly, desert and tribal areas is not available.

(d) All primary schools in 30 per cent of blocks/municipal areas in the country are targetted for 1988-89. Separate targets for these sectors are not laid down.

Constitution of a Committee Presided over by the Officials

3023. SHRI DURGA PRASAD JAMUDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are committees constituted by Government in the Railways which are presided over by the officials inspite of the fact that Members of Parliament and other important non-officials are members of those committees;

(b) whether Government's attention has been drawn to this anomaly, if so, the response thereto; and

(c) what is the inter-se-position of such officials and the M.Ps. in the order of protocol issued by Government?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) The Zonal Railway Users' Consultative Committees and the Divisional Railway Users' Consultative Committees are presided over by the concerned General Managers and the Divisional Rail Managers respectively.

(b) and (c) The above committees are advisory in nature and their meeting are not treated as State functions entailing protocol arrangements. Therefore, it is not considered necessary to make any change in the existing arrangements.

Rail Link from Raniganj to Bankura

3024. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY:
SHRI RAMNARAYAN GOSWAMI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any request has been made by the Ministry of Energy in regard to a rail-cum-road link from Raniganj to Bankura via Mejia for the proposed Thermal Power Project at Mejhia; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A new Broad Gauge line, 43 km long, from Raniganj to Bankura via Mejhia for transportation of coal to the proposed Thermal Power Plant at Mejhia was suggested. Since coal for the proposed Thermal Plant would be available from Mejhia coal fields itself, the Raniganj-Bankura line would not be required for movement of coal to the Thermal Plant. Ministry of Energy was advises accordingly.